NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM NICHOLS, ROGERS' BUILDINGS, CONGRESS STREET, (FOURTH DOOR FROM STATE STREET.)

VOL. II. BOSTON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1824. No. 28.

Boston, Jan. 29, 1824.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer.

SIR,—I am induced to request the publication of the following letter from T. A. Knight, Esq., President of the London Horticultural Society, as a just tribute to him for this repeated proof of his regard for this country, and his desire to communicate to us, some of the finest fruits, recently introduced into Europe.—I had barely hinted to him, that I was apprehensive that some of those which he sent to us last spring would fail, and it will be seen that he has promptly offered to send out duplicates of them all the ensuing spring. The least we can do, in such a case, is to make known his liberality. I have distributed, in the course of the last summer, more than two hundred buds of those which he sent; and I have promised many scions the ensuing spring. Should the new parcel arrive safely, I hope to be able to give them a circulation as wide as the liberality of the donor could desire.

That part of his letter which speaks of an ear of sweet corn sent by me to him, has reference to a question lately discussed in Horticultural Transactions, relative to the effect of the farina or pollen, of one variety of plants upon another of the same species; some of the writers contending, that a change is effected in the fruit in the same year by the interchange of the farina, while others maintain that the effect is only visible in the fruit raised from the seed in subsequent years. Mr. Knight has invariably maintained the latter opinion, in which I fully coincide. I sent him, however, an ear of our sweet corn, which I thought might be an exception. The kernels of that corn, it is well known, are white and shrivelled; but on the ears which I sent, there were several kernels of plump, yellow corn. This explanation will enable the reader to understand this part of Mr. Knight's letter. It will be seen that he does not consider this an exception to the general rule, for the reasons that he states.

I am, Sir, respectfully, your humble servant,

JOHN LOWELL.

—

Downton, near Salop, Wales, Oct. 23, 1823.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am sorry to hear that the fruit-trees I addressed to you, arrived in so ill a state. The value of them to me was very trifling, and I shall have much pleasure in sending other trees in the next spring, and till you are in possession of the different varieties, which I am satisfied you will find a great acquisition to your gardens and orchards. I should have written sooner to express my wishes to send you another box in the spring, but I have waited to receive a letter, which you proposed to send me, to say what varieties *had succeeded*, and what *had failed*. I still hope to receive such letter before the spring, that I may not send anything, which you already possess. We have recently introduced a variety of apple from the north of Italy into the Garden of the Horticultural Society, of which the Belgic as well as Italian Gardeners speak in rapturous terms: and Gallesio, the author of a splendid publication of delineations of the Italian Fruits has placed this apple first, at the head of the list of Italian fruits. And a Belgic Gardener states its flesh to be as rich and melting as that of the finest pear. I have only obtained a few buds of it for insertion in the last season, but I propose sending a budded stock to you.

I thank you for the ear of Indian Sweet Corn which you were so kind as to send me. The facts you state are very interesting; but they do not present to my mind anything anomalous.—The color of the *seed coats* in the blue and yellow grains is *not* changed. It is the matter which composes the cotyledons only, which acquires a tinge from the operation of the pollen.

An English gentleman, by the name of Goss, has pointed out, in the Horticultural Transactions of the present year, a similar change in the color of the Prussian blue pea; a variety cultivated in our gardens, of which the color of the cotyledons is a dull blue, which is seen through a white skin. Mr. Goss conceived erroneously, that he had changed the color of the seed coat; but I have, in a subsequent communication shown that he has drawn an erroneous inference; and that the seed coat of the pea, or of Indian Sweet Corn retains the same color, which it would have presented if its natural pollen, that of the plant itself, which afforded the seed, had alone been present. I planted a few of the white shrivelled seeds, taken from the ear you sent me, soon after it arrived, and I have kept each plant wholly separate from any other; and all the seeds (which have been some time perfectly ripe) are white and shrivelled. You will probably think that I have been very expeditious in obtaining ripe seeds. But we do almost every thing here by machinery; and I have a couple of dry stoves, which are always kept at a very high temperature; and into those I introduced several plants in succession, as their periods of shewing blossoms approached, suffering one only to bear its male flowers at a time. I have of the plants, growing under glass, in a lower temperature: But those have not yet ripened their seeds. The sweet Corn, in its immature state, must be, I conceive, a most admirable vegetable. I beg to assure you that I did not make the foregoing experiments under any doubts of your accuracy. On the contrary, I have given you full credit for perfect accuracy; and I think the habit of hearing from many correspondents, some of them certainly not accurate has given me a facility of distinguishing Truth from Falsehood in the statements and opinions of such correspondents. I have, in the present year, seen a great number of new seedling nectarines, obtained from experiments, purposely and scientifically made; and I have got one or two varieties of, I believe, unprecedented excellence.—But your climate is, I believe, too hot for the melting varieties of the nectarine.

I remain, my dear Sir, sincerely yours,

T. A. KNIGHT.

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BY

REMARKS ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS RELATING TO RURAL ECONOMY.

[*Continued from page* 196.]

6. *Green Corn.* Sentiments, feelings, and practices of particular application are often relinquished reluctantly and slowly after the occasions which called them forth are passed away. People do not discriminate between the general laws of conduct, and the application of them to particular circumstances. We have a striking illustration of this in the subject of the present communication. When our pious and good ancestors came into this country, one of the greatest of their concerns, and that which was attended with the greatest difficulty was to provide for comfortable subsistence in the winter. Many times, as it is well known, they were not able to do this, so as even to preserve the lives of all. One of the most comfortable and substantial articles was *Indian Corn.* This, from its nature could be preserved, and furnished them as it does their descendants, with very wholesome food, when the snow is scattered like ashes on the earth, and the frost has sealed up the waters. Under the circumstances in which they were placed, the preservation of this article was connected with the hope of life. There was nothing else on which so much dependence could be placed. While in summer, means of subsistence were more easily provided, and many things which at that season are good for food would of course decay before winter, and must therefore be used at the time, or lost. To raise Indian corn was to provide for the preservation of life; to use this in summer was to be unmindful of the calls of winter, because if this failed them there hope was gone.

These circumstances made it, not only in the estimation of those good men, but in reality a sin to break down and use that article in its green state; for thereby life was endangered. And these pious men felt as they ought to have felt that it was their duty to forego present enjoyment, when likely to result in such future sufferings. But when the general truth that it is the duty of all to preserve men's lives, was adapted to the exigencies of the occasion, the rule and the application were confounded, and a feeling was excited averse to the use of corn in a green state, which continued for many years after the exigencies of the times had passed away. I presume there are but few of middle age, who cannot recollect having been taught that it was not only very uneconomical, but in some way wicked to indulge in this luxury. They have felt a kind of misgiving, when on special occasions, they have ventured into the field, and torn down the bleeding ear. And even to this day there are not a few who experience the same kind of feeling for the best of reasons, they have the same sentiments. And there is something interesting in this, for it shows what a strong hold moral and religious culture has on the mind.

But though we ought to abstain from whatever is forbidden, we ought not to deprive ourselves of what God, in his goodness, freely gives us to enjoy. Though we are unspeakably indebted to God for this golden harvest, yet such is the rich and boundless provision he graciously makes for us, that the preservation of our lives is not dependent on this article almost alone. It may accordingly be used freely in

summer, and yet enough be left for the wants of winter.

The only enquiry of importance, now, about the use of Indian corn, in its green state, is whether it is profitable—All allow it to be pleasant. And in regard to the profit, I have no hesitancy, after much trial and investigation to say that there is no time, when the same corn will furnish more actual support and nourishment to the human frame than when in the proper state for boiling—That at no other time is it prepared for the table at so little expense, and that in its proper season it is never more healthy, than when it is green at whatever part of the day it is used—That it may, with perfect safety be served up at each meal, make the entire diet of grown persons or children, without, in ordinary cases the least unhappy result, but on the contrary with good hope that it will preserve against these complaints, which are most apt to prevail at the season, when this is in its greatest perfection—That at the time when corn is fit for boiling, and at that time only, every part is valuable for food, and will by swine or cattle be entirely consumed. And further, when there are two ears upon the same stalk, by taking off the first and fullest, the second will arrive at much greater perfection than it otherwise would; and that in the aggregate their is a larger yield than would otherwise be—And that upon the whole there is health, pleasure and profit in making a free use of green corn, in its season, and that there is not, as some have, with a kind of pious error supposed, a sort of wickedness in the sober and temperate use of it.

The corn most suitable for this purpose is the sweet corn, which is easily raised, and may with proper management be had about two months in the year, in quite a state of perfection. This is to be done by using early and later seed, planting at different times, and on different soils, and the use of different manures. If persons are desirous of getting it earlier than this will give, they must take a different kind, but none, I believe, can be had later. Late in the fall, it adds much to its sweetness to boil it in the husks, which are to be left on till it is used; and in this way it may be used a considerable time later than it can by a different process.

(To be continued.)

From the Old Colony Memorial.

AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT.

To the Trustees of the Plymouth County Agricultural Society.

Gentlemen,—The writer has been at an expense of about $100, on an acre in reclaiming a quantity of watery and boggy land, situated a few rods from his house;—and he has not yet repented.

His experiment has been particularly calculated to show, independently of a large use of manures, the strength of swamp-soil, when subdued by draining, and repeated ridge-ploughings.

In the following paper he gives a statement of the condition of the land, when he commenced improvements, of the methods used in reclaiming it, and of the products from year to year. If the Gentlemen Trustees, should think this paper, or any extract from it worthy of publication, they have liberty to publish it. If they judge the communication to be undeserving of the public eye, it is hoped they will have the goodness entirely to suppress it.

Gentlemen, very respectfully, Yours,

Charles Macomber.

The swamp was formerly wet, miry and reduced to a rough state by the treading of cattle; was covered with blue flag, yellow moss a few bushes and a yellowish wiry kind of swamp-grass. White clover appeared on the higher hillocks made by the treading of cattle in the drier parts of the swamp; which induced me to think, that the soil in itself might be good. The greater crops however have not been on the drier parts of the swamp, since it was drained; but on the more wet; and the greatest crops of all have been on a part of it, which was a quagmire, and where formerly cattle were mired, and assistance from neighbors was necessary to drag them out.

On examination, the soil of the swamp appeared to be a dark mould, a part of which had undoubtedly been washed down by rains from the neighboring hills during the lapse of centuries, mixed with vegetable matter, as grasses, moss, flags, bushes, shrubs and trees, in all the various stages of decay. In running the ditches through the more wet parts of the swamp, the workmen cut through logs, and roots of trees, most of which were so much decayed, though they retained some of their former appearance; that the shovel passed through them with as much ease, as through places, where there was merely a blackish mould.

I had conceived the design of making English meadow of the swamp in the year 1818, and commenced digging the ditch at the outlet; but it was not, till the year 1819, that I did the chief of the ditching. To ascertain the best method of ditching, I sounded the swamp with a long crow, and found the soil above the pan, which was a hard stratum, composed of gravel and clay, to be from 1 to 6 or 7 feet in depth, and near the middle of the swamp to be a bog, shaking beneath the feet.

In the year 1818, I dug the ditch at the outlet, using the crow, and plough to break up the hard pan, which lay at bottom, a distance of eleven rods and a half; so as to drain off the greater part of the water from the bog leaving only 6 feet 7 inches of watery mud in the deepest place. I declined digging the ditch at the outlet deeper, so as completely to drain the bog, fearing the soil might become too dry. My apprehension was not without reason; for I found on the subduing of the bog, that there was formed at the surface a hardened soil of 2 feet 3 inches, sufficiently firm to bear a plough with a yoke of oxen, which hardened soil seemed to rest, or rather to float, upon a soft mud beneath, which as I said before, was 2 feet 7 inches in the deepest place.

In 1819, I had the main ditch run up through the swamp, nearly straight through the deepest part of the bog. From the side of this ditch I dug another main ditch, crooking so, as to pass through the lowest parts of the swamp with a view of carrying off the water from a multitude of springs as well, as water descending from higher grounds. The only instrument, which could be used to digging through the deeper parts, was the shovel. Where there were not more than 18 inches of soil, the plough was used to loosen the soil in the ditch, and the instrument, called a scraper, was used to remove the earth. In this mode of ditching there is a great saving in time and expense, and this method is undoubtedly preferable, where the depth of swamp soil is not so great, as to prevent the use of oxen.

On each side of the straight ditch first named, and nearly at right angles with it, I dug lateral ditches at such a distance from each other, as to admit of the mower's taking four swaths between ditch and ditch. More than two thirds of the swamp I ditched in the manner named; the remainder, as the soil was not deep, and seemed pretty dry, I did not ditch at all.

The main ditches I designed to have 5 feet wide at top, and narrower at bottom. To have them of this width, when the soil became settled, I was obliged to dig them much wider, where the soil was deep, and yielding; and in one place, if I had dug the ditch 10 feet wide at first, I think the soil would have fallen in so much in settling, that it would not have been too wide. The lateral ditches I dug proportionally narrower, as the depth of soil happened to decrease; throwing the ditch earth into the middle spaces between ditch and ditch.

In this state the swamp remained gradually settling and becoming harder, till I ploughed it without difficulty during a drowth in the autumn of 1820; and after ploughing had the ditches carefully cleared out, to promote the drying of the soil.

In the spring of 1821, a most unfortunate time for cultivating a swamp, for it rained almost every day, or every other day, I began my operations for planting it with Indian corn and potatoes.

That part of the swamp, which on account of its having been drier, and the soil not so deep, I had not ditched, I found so wet and springy, that it seemed impracticable to plant it. Unwilling to be baffled in my attempt I went in with a light plough, 2 yokes of oxen and a horse, and ridge-ploughed it, wallowing in mire from 12 to 18 inches deep. By repeated ridge-ploughings I threw up this part of the swamp into ridges of such a breadth, as to admit of 2 swaths on a ridge in mowing, and of such a height, as to throw the water into the spaces between ridges; where it ran the length of the ridges, and emptied into a lateral ditch, near one side of the field extending across to the main ditch.

Some of the spaces also between the lateral ditches were so wet, as to be unfit for planting. These spaces, which had been made of a breadth to be mowed at four swaths, I divided by ridge-ploughings into two ridges, each of a breadth to be mowed at two swaths. Thus by repeated ridge-ploughings I saved much expense in ditching, and at the same time pulverized the soil, and reduced it to a fine tilth. There is no other farming tool, half equal to the plough in ridging wet land. There is no other instrument that leaves the soil in half so good a state. "Venerate the plough" therefore, and use it where it can be used.

The spaces also between the lateral ditches which on account of wetness required not to be divided into two ridges by ridge-ploughing, I nevertheless ridge-ploughed, making of each of these spaces one wide ridge; and this I did not merely to make the soil drier, but to reduce it to a desirable fineness.

(to be continued.)

From the New Hampshire Sentinel.

CHESHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Cheshire Agricultural Society, at Col. Drew's on the 7th instant, the following premiums were awarded:—

To Samuel Grant, Esq. of Walpole, the first premium offered by the Society for the best acre of Wheat raised on old ground. The produce of the acre was 31 bushels and 14 quarts. —The following is from the statement furnished by Mr. Grant.—The soil, a dark loam, rather moist. The land had been improved as mowing about 15 years and had on it eleven full grown apple trees. In the fall of 1821, fifteen loads of barn manure were carted on to the land, spread, and the land broken up. In the following spring the land was cross ploughed and harrowed, and a part sowed with peas, and the residue planted with beans and corn. The peas were harvested in July, and the part of the ground on which they grew ploughed. The beans were harvested in August, and that part ploughed. The corn was harvested 20th September and the ploughing completed. The whole was then harrowed and ploughed, harrowed again, and sowed on the 25th of Sept. with one bushel and an half of seed, washed, and while wet mixed with three quarts of slacked lime; and again harrowed, and bushed each way.—After the ground was frozen, about forty sheep were permitted to feed on it two or three days.

To Thomas Bellows, Esq. of Walpole, the first premium upon rye, raised upon old ground. —The quantity raised was thirty-seven bushels and 15 quarts on one hundred and fifty-six rods of land. No manure except about 2 or 3 bushels of Plaster had been applied to the land since 1804. Since that time, with the exception of three or four crops of rye, it has been used as a sheep pasture. The land was ploughed in June 1822—cross ploughed in Sept.—harrowed and sowed with one bushel and half peck of seed, and twice harrowed.—The above piece was a part of a field of seven acres of plain land, sowed at the same time, two or three acres of which were supposed to be equal to the part measured, the residue but little inferior to it.

To Doct. Luke Howe, of Jaffrey, for the best Essay on Manures, a premium of ten dollars. *Per order*

TH. M. EDWARDS, *Secretary.*

From the Boston Patriot.

HOROLOGY.

It is highly gratifying to observe the truly valuable and economical improvements, that have been made by our young townsman, Mr. Harrison G. Dyar, in this scientific branch of mechanics, and that they have been acknowledged by all *competent judges*, worthy of the most unqualified approbation. Here is another remarkable instance of the force of early genius —these inventions being the fruits of his leisure hours, wherein he has *intuitively* achieved improvements, which the veterans in this scientific art have for the last century, sought for in vain, viz; The more perfect and simple suspension of its vibration in the cycloidal curve—reducing 9-10ths of the usual friction—half the number of wheels—and effecting a more perfect equation of time and square in all its movements. The numerous orders already received for these improved time keepers, fully evince the general opinion in their favor. The correct principles upon which these inventions are founded, together with their simplicity, durability and cost, are evidently their peculiar characteristics. One striking instance of their economy is, that a town clock made to run a year, with all the improvements, may now be purchased for the same sum that would be necessary to pay for the service of winding up an *eight day* clock, upon the usual construction.

A friend to Native Genius.

AMERICAN SALT.

We are informed that six hundred and ninety thousand bushels of salt have been manufactured at Salina, during the last year. The most of this has been made in the old method of evaporating by boiling—the two companies, (Mr. Eckford's of this city, and that of the Messrs. Roaches of New-Bedford) which are making extensive preparations to manufacture salt by evaporation by the sun, not yet having completed their works. When these shall be in successful operation, we have no doubt that salt enough will be manufactured at that place to supply half the United States. Dr. Van Rensselaer in his Essay on salt, lately published in this city, states that " in the United States, 1,200,000 bushels are produced annually, and this is a small quantity compared with that which might be had. Yet we import annually upwards of four millions, leaving a balance of more than $2,800,000 against us. In Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas, Ohio, Virginia, New-York and Pennsylvania, salt can be produced in the greatest abundance."—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

From the Massachusetts Spy.

Sulphur a Preservative against Measles.—During the winter of 1817, the measles prevailed epidemically at Munster. Children affected with the itch, who were using sulphur externally and internally, were exempt. In 1822, measles occurred again, preceded for many days by a convulsive cough. For this symptom I prescribed flowers of sulphur and white sugar, half a tea spoonful. Many trials were made on children of different families and ages, and *all* who took it in time escaped the disease.

M. TOURTUAL.

Horace A. Hayden, Esq. of Baltimore, has discovered that the empyreumatic oil which comes over in the distillation of pyro-ligneous acid, is peculiarly valuable for preserving anatomical preparations. " Imbued with this oil, the animal textures seem entirely defended from all the changes of time." The acid is sold by the manufacturers for 25 cts. per gallon.—*Ibid.*

To make Strong or Bookbinders Paste.—Mix wheaten flour first in cold water, then boil it till it be of a glutinous consistence; this makes common paste. When you wish it to be of a stronger nature, mix a fourth, fifth or sixth of the weight of the flour, of powdered alum; and where it is wanted of a still more tenacious quality, add a little powdered resin.

To make Opodeldoc.—This well known liniment is prepared by digesting three parts of Soap in 16 parts of the Spirits of rosemary, till the former be dissolved, when one part of camphor should be incorporated with the whole. —This unguent is of great service in bruises, rheumatic affections and similar painful complaints; but being very volatile, it ought to be kept in bottles closely stopped, to prevent the access of air.

Oyster Shells.—The shells of the oyster, like those of other crustaceous fishes, are composed of calcareous earth and animal glue. They possess no medicinal virtue superior to common lime stone or chalk; but by calcination, they yield a quick-lime, which is perfectly free from any metalic or other fossil substance; and being less permeable to water, when mixed with sand, it is better calculated for the plastering of walls in damp situations. Hence the Dutch prepare their excellent mortar generally of marine shells burnt into lime; which makes a most durable cement. The great importance of this fact in point of health and economy deserves equal attention; so that the immense number of oyster shells, annually thrown away in cities, might easily be converted into a very useful shell lime.

Fredericksburg, Va. Jan. 10.—A correspondent in the country, of unquestionable veracity, writes to us as follows:—" On Sunday the 4th inst. about the hour of midnight, when my family had retired to bed, and nearly all in a profound sleep, I was surprised at the violent barking of a faithful watch dog. So great was the alarm, that he ran against the door I was approaching, as if pursued. On opening the door the light of the fire warned me of my danger —it was bursting through the roof of my house directly over the room where I had three daughters in bed, and would most certainly have fallen victims to the flames had it not been, under Providence, for the sagacious dog. The wind was high, and being weak handed, it was with great exertion the house was saved. The fire was the effect of accident originating in carelessness.

Manufactures.—Patterson, N. Y. is famous for its manufacture of hemp, flax, and tow cloth, &c.—Three hundred thousand dollars have been invested in the buildings and machinery for making those articles, and they are fabricated in unrivalled perfection. They are able to furnish 12,000 bolts per annum, which will *directly* employ 300 persons, and furnish a market for 300 tons of flax. The price of the goods is very moderate, and the cost of the foreign articles has been reduced by the success of the domestic manufacture.

Niles' Register.

Samuel Maverick, Esq. has announced, in the Pendleton, S. C. Messenger, that in a late tour to the Eastern States, he has collected upwards of fifty new varieties of the Grape Vine, with many other rare and valuable plants, for the use of the agriculturists of that part of the State. He has also succeeded in bringing safe home a genuine *Tea Plant*, direct from Canton, in China, by way of New York.

New article of " Domestic Manufacture."—Last week was obtained from the Bank in this village, on a check, between two and three thousand dollars, being the proceeds of sales of Oil of Peppermint, manufactured in the town of Phelps, by F. Vandemark & Co. the past season, and sold to a person in Massachusetts.

[Geneva, N. Y. paper.

Large Hogs.—Mr. Oliver Chickering, of Shrewsbury, recently killed a hog, 19 months old, weighing 650 lbs. Another, owned by Capt. Gershom Wheelock, 20 months old, weighed 584 lbs.—*Mass. Yeoman.*

Extracts from "An Address of THEODORE SEDGWICK, Esq. *delivered before the Berkshire Association for the promotion of Agriculture and Manufactures, at Pittsfield, Oct. 2, 1823.*

[Concluded from page 214.]

"There is one topic, fellow-citizens, that has so important a bearing, upon your comfort and prosperity, that I need no apology for suggesting it; I mean the expediency of building in brick or stone, instead of wood. A good farmer has, or desires to have, a snug, tight, comfortable house to live in. Mr. Jefferson as early as the writing of his notes on Virginia, calls the attention of the country to the subject, and regrets, that we should so generally have adopted the practice of building wooden houses. In the first settlement of the country, this was in a great measure unavoidable. The case is now reversed, and I am satisfied by repeated enquiries of builders and others, that where there is clay for brick, and the soil is gravelly, and does not require the driving of piles for a foundation, that a house may be built of brick, as cheap as of wood. There is a common impression in the country, that a brick house is damp and unwholesome, and that may possibly be the case if the foundation is in clay, but otherwise I am satisfied, that it is an error, provided the house is rightly built. If this objection be removed, can there be any comparison in value, between a brick and a wooden house? The brick house in a climate alternately intensely hot and cold, is both warmer and cooler. Then if the brick be good, and rightly burnt, it does not require painting at all. The brick houses in Philadelphia are not painted, and I know that the old brick houses in Albany, were never painted. But these brick in Albany came over sea, and how much better they may be for the voyage, I cannot say. If a man has a brick house, he has property, it is a thing that stays, he has something for his son, and his grandson, and he has something that a man will buy and pay for, if he himself is seized with the *western fever*. Really, this is a country to stay in, and not flee from. There is many a wooden house in this county, of not more than fifty years standing, that is abandoned, except by the bats and owls. Who does not desire to abandon a house, glazed with old hats, roof decayed, clap boards worm eaten, sills rotten, or half rotten, so that it stands up and down, like a snake in motion, or sits on one end, like a horse upon his haunches. It would not be easy to estimate the increased value of the property of New England, if the money now invested in wooden houses, was in brick, and I am satisfied, that the permanent prosperity of the country, is deeply concerned in this subject. Thus far, fellow citizens, and farmers, I have been pleading the cause of your interests, and I am now to plead, not for your interests merely, but for the cause of humanity, of morals, of religion, which last, the dearest and most important to us all, should sum up the whole, and include all other considerations. I mean the character of your common laborers, day laborers, the men who live from hand to mouth, who generally have neither house, nor land, or home. This class in all countries, is the most helpless, dependent and ignorant, and therefore as they can do least for themselves, they on that account become more worthy objects of public and private benevolence. In other countries, a man's birth generally decides his fate, as to the rank he is to hold in society; as he is born, so he lives and dies. To attempt to raise him out of his cast, to a higher, would be thought quixotic, and a disorderly effort, to subvert the foundations of society. Among us the case is reversed, we desire to raise the condition of all men, and to begin in the right way, by inspiring them with a love of property and distinction, and the fact is, that some of the most eminent in the land, have carried axes on their backs, and now in the prime of their honors and usefulness, are not ashamed to tell the story of their early career. I say the love of property and distinction, for we must take man as he is, and build upon the foundation, which God has laid. For you may observe in the general, that 'till you have inspired a man with this passion, you can make nothing of him. No, nothing. 'Till then, he is a miserable creature, as often without, as with, shoes or stockings, he has neither cattle, nor a house nor land; he is a vagrant, wandering over the fine face of this beautiful earth, finding no rest any where; the common ties of kindred he discards, whether it be father, brother, or stranger, it is all one, to him. He is greedy and selfish, for he has nothing laid up in store, and nothing to give; he is a nuisance to society, for he has no stake in it. All attempts, therefore, to elevate individuals, or to build up societies, without great reference to this passion, is nothing but fruitless struggle and effort, and a contradiction to nature. But can you inspire a drunkard with this passion? He who wastes all, whose body and mind crumble before this frightful disease of drunkenness. We have been called a *drunken nation*, and the fact being, that as in no country is this vice more prevalent, we may well distrust the result of all religious and benevolent efforts, 'till we are able to stem the torrent. Our duties here therefore, as is commonly the case, lie before our eyes, and at our doors. We need not go from home to find one of the most pressing objects of charity. It is the condition of the day laborers, generally, I do not speak of all—their education, their religious instruction, and most especially, that of their children. We look to the law for a remedy, and hope that the national government will lay heavy duties upon ardent spirits, so that the people cannot buy the rum, or that the state governments will diminish the number of groceries and taverns, (as though a man, who is in chase of what will get him drunk, will be deterred by being compelled to turn a corner, and go a few paces further) or we call upon the selectmen, to put in force the law against drunkards. All this is childish. The law can do no more than partially protect the property of intemperate men, and secure it for their wives and children. Even this has generally been found a fruitless effort. The law never did nor never will counteract the vicious habits of society, that consist in *indulgence*. Who ever heard of a temperate, chaste society produced by law?—No, it is the public sentiment, the moral feeling, the religious coercion, that is to afford us any hope. It is not uncommon for a laboring man to drink a pint of rum in a day, and this too of cider brandy, one of the most loathsome products of the beautiful fruits of the earth, and I have been credibly informed, that a set of laborers in the harvest, have been known to drink a quart per man all round, and by this, the poor wretches think to make themselves *strong*. No, it is *food*, and not *drink*, that makes a man *strong*. And the proof lies, in the fact, that a laboring man, who is not diseased by intemperance, will drink his pint a day, and still eat ravenously three times in it. This, together with the fact which every one knows in the general, that this drink does not diminish his appetite, is proof positive against all the chemical analysis in the world, that in a man's stomach, a quart of whiskey made of rye, is not equal to a solid quart of good rye bread, or any assignable portion of it. No, the human constitution is such, that *drink* in its common form is one thing, and *food* is another. I know that many of our farmers justify themselves in the quantity of liquor allowed to their laborers, by the opinion, that they cannot get the work without it. This is a mistake, for there are instances of great farms being managed, without the use of any spiritous liquors whatever. In the county of Westchester in New York, a premium is adjudged to the individual who cultivates the largest number of acres, without the use of ardent spirits. There is a right and a wrong way in every thing, and it is the way, in which these indulgencies are denied, that defeats the object. Let it be done, not from niggardliness, but a tender fellow-feeling for the man; give him in moderation, for in moderation, the thing may often be good—let him see that; what you save in liquor, let it be made up in desirable food, a good dainty luncheon, at 10 o'clock, and another at four, if he wishes it; *these will make him strong*. The condition of the laborers, is in one respect very different from your *gentleman* drunkard. *His* case is hopeless. The moment that he drinks to excess, he is diseased, he bloats and dies. Not so with a laboring man, he will drink a great deal to day, and be the worse for it, but by to-morrow at ten o'clock, if his strength is not yet impaired, the rum is fairly worked off, and he is ready to begin again. Within my own experience, the laboring man who drinks to excess, is the only intemperate man, of whom there is any hope. For 'till he has proceeded to a certain extremity, the excitement of ardent spirits is not physically necessary to him. When that takes place, it is all over with any man.

"There is no higher obligation under which an independent farmer lies, than that, of a strict, moral, religious attention to his laborers. To understand the nature of this, he must first know, that he himself is not to be ignorant, for an ignorant man can teach no one. Intellectual pleasures best secure a man against the pleasures of vice. The standard of knowledge among our laboring people is low, compared with what it should be. It would be quite contemptible to suppose that the farmers are to study latin and Greek. But it is desirable that they should be well versed in all the knowledge that belongs to their occupation. There is time enough for it. A laboring husbandman, who is reading and studying what belongs to his art, is pursuing the most interesting of all knowledge. It is the mystery of nature, in the soil, the plant, the fruit, the seed, the elements. Why should not our children be taught it, and why should not the laboring man have the books, which give him this knowledge? But the time, the time, who has it? No husbandman has it in the

season of hurry and harvest, for the harvest knows no *hours*, and a man must then work, 'till ten o'clock at night if safety to his crop requires it. Let him save five dollars out of his gin and rum, and cider brandy, and buy that amount of good books this year, and as many the next, and so on, and then let him read them in the long winter evenings, that pass from October to March, when he is neither sowing nor planting, nor attending to his cattle, and when he would otherwise be dawdling about, drinking ginger and cider, and doing nothing. He will find there is time enough; he will increase his capital with the least disbursement; he will give dignity to his occupation, and best secure himself against temptations to intemperance. God requires from every man, the best use of his time and talents. It is only by an intellectual and religious cultivation of our people, that we can rescue our country from the deep dishonor, under which we lie, in being called a nation of drunkards. Let us scorn those base maxims of the world, by which it has been held, that a laboring man, must of course be vulgar and ignorant. Fellow-citizens, consider your blessings, compared with any other people. Look at that country from whence we came, paralized by the burthens that have followed war and extravagance, showing at once the most frightful of all contradictions, a nation sinking under the weight of riches and poverty; look at multitudes of their laborers, patient, self-denying, temperate, at sun rise the man is in the field, at eight o'clock he breakfasts upon bread and water, his dinner is bread and water, and his supper nothing more. Compare this with your own ease and luxuries, and endeavor to make the best requital to God in your power, by the highest moral, intellectual, and religious cultivation of yourselves, and your laborers."

From the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository.

ON THE MANAGEMENT OF FRUIT TREES.

As this is the branch of agriculture least understood in our country, it has seemed to me that no number of our Journal should be issued without some hints on that subject. No sensible man would pretend to place it in competition in point of importance, with either the general cultivation of the soil, or the raising of domestic animals of improved breeds. The first object undoubtedly is, to produce the greatest quantity, and the best quality of articles of food for the support of the inferior animals, and of man. The second to improve the races of domestic animals which furnish us food and clothing. But when these have been brought to perfection, and indeed while we are endeavoring to bring them to that state, we ought not to neglect those luxuries which our own country is capable of producing, and which contribute essentially to our enjoyments. So long as we pay some millions of dollars for exotic fruits and productions, for foreign wines, oranges, figs, almonds, raisins, and olives, we ought not to neglect fruits which our own climate will produce and which are invariably preferred to those which we import. I hesitate not to say, that in any dessert on the most sumptuous tables, native apples and pears if of exquisite qualities, are always taken and consumed in preference to the finest exotic fruits. So long as we can place on our tables delicious native grapes, peaches, apricots, nectarines, strawberries, raspberries, apples and pears, the exotic fruits will be only used as ornaments to give splendor to the dessert.

With these views we think it our duty to encourage our own horticulture, and to lay before our readers the remarks of foreign cultivators of greater experience.

The article herein inserted was extracted from a work of Mr. Hayward, and which met the approbation of the Horticultural Society of London. It is one of the latest works on this subject, and is certainly entitled to high respect.

We would simply remark that to those who read it carelessly it may seem to militate with the opinion expressed above in noticing the communication of Mr. Howard, of Bridgewater, as to the policy of *heading* down trees—but on further examination it will be seen to be in entire accordance with it.

The reasons why injudicious and extravagant pruning of trees is injurious is, that the roots remain uninjured and calculated for the tree in its full vigor. They will therefore send up a superabundance of sap, which finding no limbs or leaves to receive them overflows, and descends down the bark, is there decomposed and forms a black mass which we denominate "canker."

But when trees are transplanted, the reverse of this takes place—the roots are exceedingly diminished, and are not sufficient to supply the requisite nourishment to the plant. It is almost incalculable, the quantity and number of minute fibrous roots, which are destroyed in all transplantations.

Hence there is no sort of discordance in these opinions, as to the *propriety* and *necessity* of heading down or severe pruning in cases of transplantation, and the *danger* of doing it, when the roots *remain entire*. One thought may be suggested, and we believe it to be new, resulting from this discussion, which is, that when you prune or graft a large tree or cut off its principal limbs, it may be useful to diminish its roots in nearly the *same proportion*. I am induced to mention this, because the Green and Hot House Gardeners are in the constant practice of diminishing the roots, when they *head* down their plants.

COMMENTS ON THE GENERAL MODE OF RAISING AND MANAGING FRUIT TREES OF THE NURSERYMEN.

In the removal or transplantation of trees, gardeners and nurserymen are generally very careless and inattentive in taking them up, and care not how much the roots are broken or lessened in number, provided they have enough left to keep the tree alive; the consequence is, that although the branches left on may remain alive, there is so great a deficiency of sap, from the loss of roots, that the vessels cannot be filled the following spring, therefore they contract and become inflexible, and after one or two seasons are incapable of extension; so that when in the course of time the roots are restored, and the sap supplied in the usual quantity, it is, from being restricted in its former course, impelled through the nearest vertical and accommodating buds that offer.

Hence it will be seen, that in almost all trees trained in the common way, the first branches which were trained in, and are the most horizontal, are the smallest and weakest, and in consequence incapable of bringing fruit to perfection; and as these occupy the best part of the wall, the strongest and most luxuriant shoots, by being trained erect, quickly grow out of bounds, and are annually cut away.

Thus the strength of the tree is wasted, and the continued efforts of nature to produce fruit, in proportion to the age and capacity of the roots, is obstructed, instead of being forwarded and assisted.

It is this effect that induced the practice of heading back young trees, on transplanting; and under such circumstances it is certainly a proper and necessary method.

Trees that are not headed back, after the usual mode of transplantation, such, for instance, as half trained and full trained trees from the nurserymen, are found to throw out their strongest shoots immediately about the stem or trunk, and notwithstanding these are removed, this and every other attempt to force the sap into the old branches is vain, its nature will remain the same; and a vigorous head cannot be restored, but by a removal of the old branches.

This shews the impropriety of the present practice of heading back and training trees in the nursery ground.

As it is a general custom for those who plant fruit to rely on the nurseryman for the production of their plants, it becomes an object of the greatest importance to enquire, how far their general practice is adapted to public utility. And I feel no hesitation in stating, that this business is conducted upon such imperfect principles, that it is almost impossible to find one plant in twenty that is worth transplanting.

It is obvious, that unless the original plan or foundation be good, a perfect superstructure cannot be raised.

From the deformity and disorder produced in the nursery ground, almost all our gardens and orchards exhibit in their trees a complete contrast to the beautiful simplicity and bountiful produce provided for by Nature.

Before, therefore, any thing like perfection can be attained by the gardener, a reformation must take place in the practice of the nurserymen.

The first operations of the nurseryman I will consider to be the transplanting his stocks for engrafting and budding, and in performing this, his only object is, that they grow and produce some kindly luxuriant branches; but as to how or where, or in what manner, either these or the roots may grow, he is perfectly indifferent.

Whether the bud or graft produces one or more shoots it matters not, the whole are cut off short, or, as it is termed, headed back the following winter, and such as accidentally produce four or five branches, so placed as to be fastened, to form a flat side, are fixed to stakes or a wall, in the form they are usually trained; and as if further to insure premature old age, decrepitude, and deformity, they are afterwards several times taken up and transplanted in the same careless manner.

The roots are broken or cut off at random, and generally either diminished more than one-half, or they are doubled back and distorted, and if there be enough left to keep the plant alive, it is thought quite sufficient; and by these means the appearance of blossoms and fruit being prematurely produced, those stinted and

deformed plants are sold as half, or full-trained trees for four times the price of others; and when sold, they are again taken up, and the roots treated and diminished in the same careless manner.

Miller, Forsyth, Knight, and others, uniformly direct that trees from the nursery ground be cut down, or headed back, to two or three eyes, the next spring after planting; and with such plants as here described, there cannot be a better mode of treatment, but this is evidently losing time, and wasting its produce.

Whenever the roots of a tree are diminished on transplantation, the supply of sap must be proportionally lessened: for if the branches of a tree, under such circumstances, are left at full length, the sap vessels, for want of a due quantity to distend them become bark-bound and inflexible; and when the roots are restored, and furnish a luxuriant quantity of sap, this, from being obstructed in its former channels, forms new ones through the buds that offer the most perpendicular position, next the stem or trunk; and although these shoots may be rubbed off, still they form again in the same place, and it will be in vain to attempt supporting the original branches.

A regular head cannot be formed but by a removal of the entire old one; and frequently the vessels of the trunk itself become so fixed and stubborn in the bark, and particularly in standards, as to force the sap out into luxuriant branches near the root.

It has often been made a question and a subject for argument, whether it is better to transplant from a rich to a poor soil, or the reverse; but as the transplanting from a rich to a poor soil even were the roots entire, must cause the bark or sap-vessels to contract, for want of the usual supply of food, and be productive of the same consequences as curtailing the root, the doubt is easily solved.

It may further be remarked, that however diminutive a plant be from poverty, provided the vessels have always been free from contraction, they will readily expand through all the usual channels, and receive and regularly dispose of every additional supply of sap, however great it may be.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1824.

NEW VARIETIES OF FRUIT. We hope that the letter from T. A. KNIGHT, Esq. and the introductory remarks by Mr. LOWELL, which compose the first articles in this day's paper, will meet with that attention from those who are engaged in Agriculture and Horticulture, which their importance demands. The exertions of those gentlemen will be more highly and justly appreciated, when it is reflected that their efforts are entirely disinterested;—they can have no other motive than the consciousness of having contributed to the welfare and enjoyment of their fellow creatures.

Farmers in general are too apt to consider fruit as a *mere* luxury, and therefore pay but little attention to its cultivation. But, although fruit is not absolutely *indispensable* to the support of human existence, it is a very *useful* article, and may be ranked among the best gifts of Providence. Mr. Knight, in one of his publications, has well observed that "The palate, which relishes fruit, is seldom pleased with strong fermented liquors; and as feeble causes, continually acting, ultimately produce extensive effects, the supplying the public with fruit, at a cheap rate, would have a tendency to operate favorably, both on the physical and moral health of the people." This view of the subject gives an importance to the pursuits of the orchardist, which few seem to realize.

It is as easy to cultivate the best kinds of fruits, as those which are of inferior quality, and the former are no doubt more wholesome, as well as more palatable than the latter. Besides, by introducing fruit of superior kinds into our markets, and furnishing them in plenty on the domestic board, we render their consumption more common, and cause the most pleasant and most wholesome articles of aliment to be those of most general use. The philanthropist therefore, can in no way better make known his good will to his species than by using his best efforts to cause fruit to be cheap, plentiful, and of an excellent quality.

ON PRESERVING ICE. We have heretofore given directions relative to the construction of ice houses, and as the season has arrived or is near at hand, in which it will be proper to lay in a store of that article we will offer some observations on the subject, mostly taken from Dr. Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia.

The space between the ice-chamber, and the bank should be filled with dry straw, or what is still better, dry shavings* closely pressed. The ice should be collected in the coldest weather; let it be exposed at least one night to the cold atmosphere after it is removed from the water: which will reduce its temperature many degrees if the weather is severe. When put into the house it should be beaten small;† and I think it would be useful frequently to sprinkle it with a watering pot whilst putting in: the mass would by that means be rendered more compact. When the chamber is filled, cover the whole with a good thickness of straw, (or shavings, &c.) but I should suppose it would be best to cover the ice first with plank supported by the sides of the chamber, only leaving a door to descend through.

In level situations, where a drain cannot be conveniently dug out from the bottom of the pit, I should suppose it would answer very well to enclose the ice by a mound raised entirely above the surface of the earth, through which the water may be discharged. This perhaps would not be quite so cool a repository as if under the surface of the earth; unless the mound was very thick; but I am persuaded that the loss of a few degrees in temperature bears very little proportion to the advantage resulting from dryness.

In Italy, where ice is much used, both as a medicine and a diet, it is formed in the following manner. Balls of snow are wetted, and placed one on another in the ice house. The bottom parcel rests on logs, through the interstices of which the dissolved water drops; and the whole mass is formed into a solid body of ice in the course of the winter.

Pits for ice houses should be dug down to gravel, or have a drain to carry off the dissolved water.

Dr. Cooper gives the following description of "*A Portable Ice House.*"

"A well framed wooden box, six feet by 3 feet. Another wooden box two inches larger every way. Put the smaller into the larger, surrounded by charcoal dust at bottom and on the sides; a cover to fit close; a hole at one corner to let out the water of melted ice, with a cork or plug. At the first frost put in two inches of water: add to it during the winter till it be frozen solid; cover it. Throw a blanket over the top. Put it under a shed so as to be screened from the sun."

We have been told by a gentleman, who has had some experience in preserving ice, that in making a drain to an ice house there is danger lest the aperture which lets the water out should let the air in, and cause the ice to melt away.—That if the soil at the bottom of the ice house be gravel, sand, or other material of a loose texture, no drain will be necessary, as the earth will absorb any water which may flow from the melting of the ice; and nothing more will be needed than to lay on the ground, at the bottom of the ice house a coating of dry straw, shavings, or other suitable material.

The same gentleman asserts that an ice house should not be kept too close, but there should be a door or other aperture in the north part which should be left open in clear cool weather, when the wind is northerly, but closed in damp sultry weather.

---

* Dry tan, oak leaves, and saw dust have been recommended for the same purpose.

† Some have given directions to break the ice into lumps about the size of a man's head. But it is not material what is the size of the pieces provided they are frozen dry and solid, packed close, and cold water poured on them in cold weather till the whole coheres in one mass.

[*Continued from page* 206.]

PARING AND BURNING. It is observed by Sir John Sinclair that "paring and burning is to be preferred to every other method for reclaiming land, *where the soil will produce a proper quantity of ashes.* It is proved by experiment that it is much less expensive than clearing the land by tillage;—produces better crops;—and leaves the land in a better state for cultivation.—But where the ground is deficient in vegetable matter, full of stones and rocks, or covered with wood, other means must be resorted to.

"It is scarcely possible to improve fen and peat soils from a state of nature, to that of profitable cultivation, without the assistance of fire. The spontaneous growth is so worthless, that it must be destroyed; and that is most readily and effectually done by paring and burning, operations to which these soils are peculiarly calculated. The surface is easily pared;—the soil is more inflammable than any other;—and the turf can be converted into ashes at a moderate expense.

"When land covered with thick tufted coarse grass is broken up and sown, without having previously undergone this process, the old rubbish carries most of the moisture from the seed, and proves a harbor for grubs, slugs, and other vermin. Whereas, when the turf is burnt, these enemies to cultivation are destroyed;—the causes of sterility are removed,—and in its stead, a fertilizing power is created, which, without the aid of this process, could not have been obtained.

"Many soils formerly cultivated have been subsequently neglected, till their surface has become mossy, and unproductive, or covered with a luxuriant crop of useless weeds or coarse herbage. In these cases paring and burning is the proper system to render such land fit for vegetation. Whenever *old swards*, full of matted matter are broken up, they ought always to be treated in that way. But this observation is not applicable to land that has lain only a few years in grass; or to any land capable of producing good crops of grain immediately on being ploughed."

Sir John Sinclair agrees with Sir Humphrey Davy that sandy soils cannot be pared or burnt to advantage, and observes, "where the soil produces sweet herbage, and contains a just mixture of good earth, or where the texture is already sufficiently soluble, paring and burning ought not to be practised, nor ought turf

that will readily harrow to pieces, to be subjected to those processes."

"A new method of "burning without fire" has lately been discovered. This consists in substituting quick lime for fire. The lime in its most caustic state fresh from the kiln is laid upon the vegetable surface to be consumed; and before it is weakened by exposure to the air, a quantity of water, just sufficient to put it in powerful action is applied. This process unites the advantages of burning and liming; and is probably the readiest and cheapest mode of fertilizing soils which superabound with vegetable matter, and for which lime would prove a suitable manure."—*Deane's N. E. Farmer.* (*To be continued.*)

Mr. Webster, we are happy to learn, (says the Providence American) has prepared for the press his late masterly Speech on the Greek Question, and it was to have been published at the office of the Columbian Star, in a pamphlet form, in the course of the last week.

Prize Poem.—Mr. Charles Sprague, of Boston, is the successful competitor for the $100 prize, offered by the Managers of the Boston Theatre for the best poetical production, to be recited at the Jubilee to the celebrated Shakespeare. This is the third time in which Mr. Sprague has been successful in similar competitions.—Thirty-three poems were offered, some of which are said to be very meritorious.

Small Pox.—No new case has appeared in this town since our last paper. Several persons, who have been vaccinated for the *kine pock*, were exposed, but none of them appear to have caught the disease.

In Lexington no new case of the *small pox* has occurred for more than two weeks.—*Concord paper.*

Fires.—In Savannah, Jan. 19, seventeen stores, &c. were destroyed by fire. Loss estimated at $75,000. In Columbia, S. C. Jan. 14, property was destroyed by fire to the amount of $2000. In New-York, two dry good stores situated in Pearl Street were destroyed.—Loss $25,000.

FOREIGN.

Letters and papers have been received from Smyrna to the 22d November. By these it appears that the third campaign of the Turks had proved unsuccessful. The citadel of Corinth has surrendered to the Greeks, and the Turkish prisoners had arrived at Asia Minor.—The Greeks had also captured a Turkish corvette, several brigs, a schooner, and some Transports. On the other hand it is stated that the Greeks had suffered a heavy loss in the Island of Candia, by a sortie of the Turkish garrison of Canæ, said to be from 2,500 to 5000; with the capture of five villages, and from 2 to 3000 prisoners. The victory, however, is denied by the Greek papers, which state that the Greeks re-united in the mountains, and compelled the Turks to retreat to their retrenchments with loss.

CONGRESSIONAL.

In Senate.—Friday, Jan. 23. The bill authorizing the building of ten *Sloops of War*, for the naval service of the U. S. was discussed in Committee of the whole.

Mr. Lloyd, of Mass. read a letter from the Secretary of the Navy on the economy and convenience of this class of vessels. He remarked that not more than five or six of them would be built the present year if the act passed; that not more than 4, or 500,000 dollars would be wanted within the year, and that economy in building them would be promoted by this delay, as the timber would be purchased, and time allowed for it to season. The bill was postponed to Tuesday.

Monday, Jan. 26. A bill for the better securing the accountability of public officers was reported by Mr. Holmes, of Maine.

The resolution for authorizing the President to send a public vessel to convey the Marquis De La Fayette to this country passed *unanimously*.

A resolution providing for the biennial election of officers of the Senate *passed*, after debate.

Tuesday, Jan. 27. A communication was received from the Secretary of the State, in conformity to a resolution of the Senate, passed the 1st of March last, containing a list of the Factories in each state employed in manufacturing, for sale, such articles as would be liable to duties if imported from foreign countries, &c.

The bill to abolish imprisonment for debt was made the order of the day for Friday.

Wednesday, Jan. 28. The bill to authorize an additional number of sloops of War was discussed in Committee of the whole. Mr. Lloyd, of Mass. Mr. Chandler, Mr. Smith and Mr. Parrott offered their sentiments, and it was made the order of the day for Friday next.

The bill better to secure the accountability of public officers was considered, and made the order of the day for Friday next.

The bill for the final adjustment of Land Claims in Missouri and Arkansas, derived from the governments of France and Spain, passed. Yeas 21, Nays 14.

Thursday, Jan. 29. The resolution, which provides that no person shall be eligible to the Presidency for more than eight years, after debate passed to be engrossed.

House.—Friday, Jan. 23. This day was principally occupied with the Greek question. Mr. Cuthbert of Geo. spoke in opposition to Mr. Webster's resolution. Mr. Clay supported the resolution in an energetic, eloquent, and argumentative speech.

Saturday, Jan. 24. After attending to the ordinary business of the day, the House in Committee took up the Greek question. Mr. Randolph opened the debate in opposition to Mr. Webster's resolution, with an eloquent speech. Mr. Webster spoke in reply. Both these orators exhibited those powers, which have rendered them so deservedly celebrated.

Monday, Jan. 26. After attending to local and private business the Greek Cause was again introduced, and Mr. Smyth, of Virginia, made a long and elaborate speech against the resolution in favor of the Greeks.

Mr. Rich of Vermont, suggested to the Committee whether, considering the diversity of opinion which existed, it would not be advisable to rise without taking any question whatever on the subject. He then moved that the Committee rise, and his motion was carried. By this measure, the Greek question was disposed of, probably for this session.

Thursday, Jan. 29. On motion of Mr. Webster, the Post Office Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law that the publishers of newspapers, and other periodical journals, may be allowed, in transmitting such newspapers or journals by mail, to accompany them with bills or memorandums of account, on such conditions and for such additional rates of postage as may be thought proper.

The House concurred with the Senate in the resolution for sending a national ship to bring the Marquis De La Fayette to the United States.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

Senate.—Jan. 28. Five bills for incorporating Insurance Companies passed to be engrossed; and a bill establishing limited Copartnership.

A resolve passed to fix the number of the Judges of the Supreme Judicial Court at four. The Hon. Mr. Keyes gave notice that he should move for a reconsideration of the vote. The remainder of the day was spent in attending to private and local business.

Thursday, Jan. 29. A bill respecting Public Worship and Religious Freedom passed to be engrossed.

A Committee was appointed to inquire into the value of the reversionary interest of the Commonwealth in the several bridges over Charles River, South Boston Bridge, Chelsea and Malden Bridges, and to inquire into the expediency of selling said interest in any or all of them, or releasing them to the respective Corporations, on certain conditions.

Friday, Jan. 30. The Governor, by Message, communicated a resolve of the General Assembly of Georgia, proposing as an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, that "No part of the Constitution ought to be construed or shall be construed, to authorize the importation or ingress of any person of color into any one of the U. S. contrary to the laws of such State."

Saturday, Jan. 31. A Report of the Joint Committee on the subject of the Massachusetts Claim was received, and ordered to be printed.

Monday, Feb. 2. A Committee was appointed to report on the expediency of repealing the law to restrain the issuing certain printed Promissory Notes.

The Governor, by Message communicated the proceedings of the Legislature of Alabama in favor of Andrew Jackson, as President.

Tuesday, Feb. 3. The bill to repeal the law, establishing the salaries of the Supreme Judicial Court was rejected. Yeas 8, Nays 25.

House.—Wednesday, Jan. 28. An additional bill for punishing Rogues and Vagabonds was read twice.

A Committee was appointed to report on the expediency of authorizing femmes coverts with the guardians of their husbands, in the sale of Real Estate held in right of the wife, and to release their dower in certain cases.

Thursday, Jan. 29. The petition of the town of Chelmsford, praying for a law to provide for the annual vaccination of the inhabitants of every town was referred to the Committee on Vaccination.

The proceedings for several of the succeeding days were mostly of a private and local nature.

Tuesday, Feb. 3. The House in Committee of the whole, voted to recommend a non-concurrence with the Senate in giving leave to the Amherst Institution to bring in their bill for a Charter. Yeas 108, Nays 91.

Erratum.—In our paper of the 24th ult. page 206, 2d line from the top, an awkward error escaped our notice till too late to correct it in that paper, or the next succeeding one. Instead of "*might to original matter*," it should be *mite of original matter*.

WANTED to purchase twenty or thirty full blood Merino Ewes. Address, or apply to Daniel Wild, Broker, Exchange Street, Boston. Feb. 7.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM	TO
		D. C.	D. C.
APPLES, good, to best,	bbl.	1 75	2 25
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	147 00	150
pearl do.		140	142 50
BEANS, white,	bush	90	1 00
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs. new,	bbl.	8	8 50
cargo, No 1,		6 75	7
" No 2,		5 75	6
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual. new	lb.	10	12
" 2d qual.		8	10
CHEESE, new milk		7	8
skimed milk,		3	4
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	83	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St.	bbl.	6 75	
Genessee,		7	
Rye, best		3 75	
GRAIN, Rye	bush	60	
Corn		40	50
Barley		67	70
Oats		38	40
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	9	
HOPS, No 1, Inspection of 1823		35	40
LIME,	cask	1 00	1 17
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	63	72
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	4 50	5 00
PORK, Bone Middlings new,	bbl.	14 50	15 00
PORK, navy, mess,		12 50	
Cargo, No 1,		11 75	12
SEEDS, Herd's Grass, 1822,	bush	2 50	
Clover	lb.	6	7
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		58	70
do do unwashed		37	40
do 3-4 washed		45	50
do 1-2 do		37	40
Native do		31	33
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		50	00
do Spinning, 1st sort		40	42
PROVISION MARKET.	lb.		
BEEF, best pieces		6	8
PORK, fresh		5	6
VEAL,		3	8
MUTTON and LAMB,		3	8
POULTRY,		5	9
BUTTER, keg & tub, family,		13	16
lump, best		11	18
EGGS,	doz.	17	20
MEAL, Rye,	bush	60	65
Indian,		55	60
POTATOES,		33	40
CIDER, liquor, new	bbl.	2 00	2 50
HAY, according to quality,	ton.	18 00	20 00

STANZAS.

BY BERNARD BARTON.

The flowret's bloom is faded,
Its glossy leaf grown sere;
The landscape round is shaded
By winter's frown austere.

The dew, once sparkling lightly
On grass of freshet green,
In heavier drops unsightly,
On matted weeds is seen.

No songs of joy to gladden,
From leafy woods emerge;
But winds, in tones that sadden,
Breathe Nature's mournful dirge.

All sights and sounds appealing,
Through merely outward sense,
To joyful thought and feeling,
Seem now departed hence.

But not, with such, is banish'd
The bliss that life can lend;
Nor with such things hath vanish'd
Its truest, noblest end!

The toys that charm and leave us,
Are fancy's fleeting elves;
All that should glad or grieve us
Exists within ourselves!

Enjoyment's genuine essence
Is virtue's godlike dower:
Its most triumphant presence
Illumes the darkest hour.

MISCELLANY.

COMETS.

The following remarks are extracted from an English work. They refer to some observations which had been made by Dr. Herschel on the Comet of 1811. [*Providence Gazette.*

The Comet of 1807, in its approach to the sun advanced within sixty one millions of miles of it, and its tail, when longest, covered an extent of nine millions of miles. The late Comet, in its perihelion did not pass so near the sun by about thirty six millions of miles, being about two thirds only of the closest approximation of the preceding, and nevertheless acquired a tail of upwards of a hundred of millions of miles. May we not then conclude, as he suggests, that the consolidation of the comet of 1807, when it reached its perihelion, had already been carried to a much greater degree of density than that of the last comet, by some former approach to our sun, or some similarly constructed celestial bodies, such as we have reason to believe the fixed stars to be? And that comets may pass round other suns than ours, is rendered probable from our not knowing, with certainty as yet, the return of more than one comet among the great number that have been observed?

Deguignes enumerates two or three hundred comets mentioned by Chinese writers. Doubts, however, have since been thrown upon the authorities referred to.

Extensive as are orbits of comets, from their eccentricity they have sometimes approached much nearer to the sun than any of the planets; for the comet of 1680 when at its perihelion, was at the distance of only one-sixth of the sun's diameter from its surface. Yet from the very inconsiderable density of their enormous tails, and even of the greater part of the nucleus itself, should it ever happen to a planet, of which there is but very little probability, to fall exactly in the way of a comet, it is supposed that the inconvenience suffered by the inhabitants of the planet might be merely temporary and local: the chances are however, much greater, that a comet might interfere in such a manner with a planet, as to deflect it a little from its course, and retire again without coming actually into a contact with it.

Nearly 500 comets are recorded to have been seen at different times, and the orbits of about a hundred have been correctly ascertained: but we have no opportunity of observing a sufficient portion of the orbit of any comet, to determine with accuracy the whole of its form as an ellipsis, since the part which is within the limits of our observation does not sensibly differ from the parabola, which would be the result of an ellipsis prolonging without end.

Two comets at least, or perhaps, three, have been recognized in their return.—A comet appeared in 1770, which Prosperin suspected to move in an orbit materially different from a parabola; Mr. Lexell determined its period to be 5 years and 7 months, and its extreme distances to be between the orbits of Jupiter and of Mercury; but it does not appear that any subsequent observations have confirmed his theory.

CHRYSTALLIZATION OF WATER.

The chrystallization of water under the form of those night frosts which so much prevail during the early spring, and which are of such important service in assisting the operations of agriculture, by rendering the surface of the earth mellow, and better susceptible of the manure that is necessary to it, are greatly assisted and in many cases entirely brought about by the intervention of moonlight. It is well known, that, under certain circumstances, water will sink to the temperature of 22 degrees before it freezes, or takes the form of chrystals. Indeed it will invariably do so in the absence of any mechanical agitation, and in the absence of light. It is an unquestionable fact, but one which has not been observed generally, or attended to, that during that period of the year which has been alluded to, and indeed other periods, before the moon rises on a still clear night, when the atmosphere is at a lower temperature than 32, the water remains in a liquid state, but immediately on the moon rising, and diffusing its light around, the water freezes, and performs the salutary offices required of it, without subjecting us to the severity of a low temperature.—*Gurney's Lectures on Chemistry.*

Suffocation of Infants.—Infant children are too frequently exposed to risks of suffocation, from the imprudent covering of their mouths by their nurses. The accession of air to their lungs is thus prevented, and death ensues; for every animal destroys the air it breathes, and an infant requires the circulation of at least a gallon of air a minute. Deprived of this circulation, the air in the lungs loses its elasticity, the action of those primary organs is stopped; and it is in vain that the little victim gasps unseen, till death puts an end to its suffering. At a riper age, when the frame is endued with more strength, and a consciousness of the cause of suffering is entertained, the struggles of children to escape from suffocation by means of cloths thrown over their faces, may be commonly observed, and should be received as lessons.

It is but a little time since a poor woman walking, in a storm of wind, between Hunsdon and Ware, sheltered her infant so effectually with her cloak, that melancholy to tell, on her arrival at the end of her journey, the child, whom she had fancied asleep was dead.—*Lon. pap.*

FOR THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

APHORISMS.

Riches.—A competency is truly desirable, and should diligently be sought for. But great riches cause great care, and those who are "careful about many things," may endure, but cannot enjoy their existence.

Temperance in Labor and Study.—A man may be too ardent even in laudable pursuits. By depriving himself of rest and refreshment he lays a foundation for years of languor and pain. The laborious student should recollect that mental excellence cannot exist after the constitution is destroyed by mental exertion.

The value of Praise.—Praise is to be estimated according to the source from which it originates. It may be flattery of fools, and the acclamations of the vicious, and if so it is as much to be deprecated as the censure of the wise and virtuous.

Useful Learning.—Human intellect has its bounds, and no one man can take an accurate survey of the whole field of science. A choice then should be made of such objects of instruction as are most likely to fit the pupil for the part which he will probably be called to act in life. Agesilaus being asked what children should learn, replied, "What may be of use to them when grown up to be men."

ANECDOTE.

An unfortunate man, who had never drank water enough to warrant the disease, was reduced to such a state by dropsy, that consultation of the physicians was held upon his case. They decided that tapping was indispensable, and the poor patient was induced to submit to the operation, notwithstanding the entreaties of his son, a boy of seven years old. "Oh, papa, papa! do not let them tap you!" screamed the urchin in an agony of fear, "do any thing, but do not let them tap you!" "Why my dear! said the parent, "it will do me good, and I shall live long in health to make you happy." "No, father, no, you will not; there never was any thing tapped in our house that lasted more than a week."

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞ Published every Saturday, at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of FIFTY CENTS.

☞ No paper will be discontinued (unless at the discretion of the publisher,) until arrearages are paid.

JOB PRINTING

At short notice and fair prices, at the Farmer Office.